ROSARY MEDITATIONS

by DEWnada YTHU (D. Ernest Wachter)

Copyleft 2008

Our Lady who is the Essence of the Earth
*We have called you by many names**
Return now unto Your People
Speak Your Will, and it shall be done
As Above, so Below.
Please give us each moment: our life, light & love.
If we have let you down,
Please forgive us and cleanse us,
According to our own willingness to forgive others.
Lead us away from Lures
And deliver us from Evil
For You are Goddess, Queen of the Universe,
Yours is the Power, the Grace, the Wisdom & the Beauty
Age unto Ages
Ah-Main

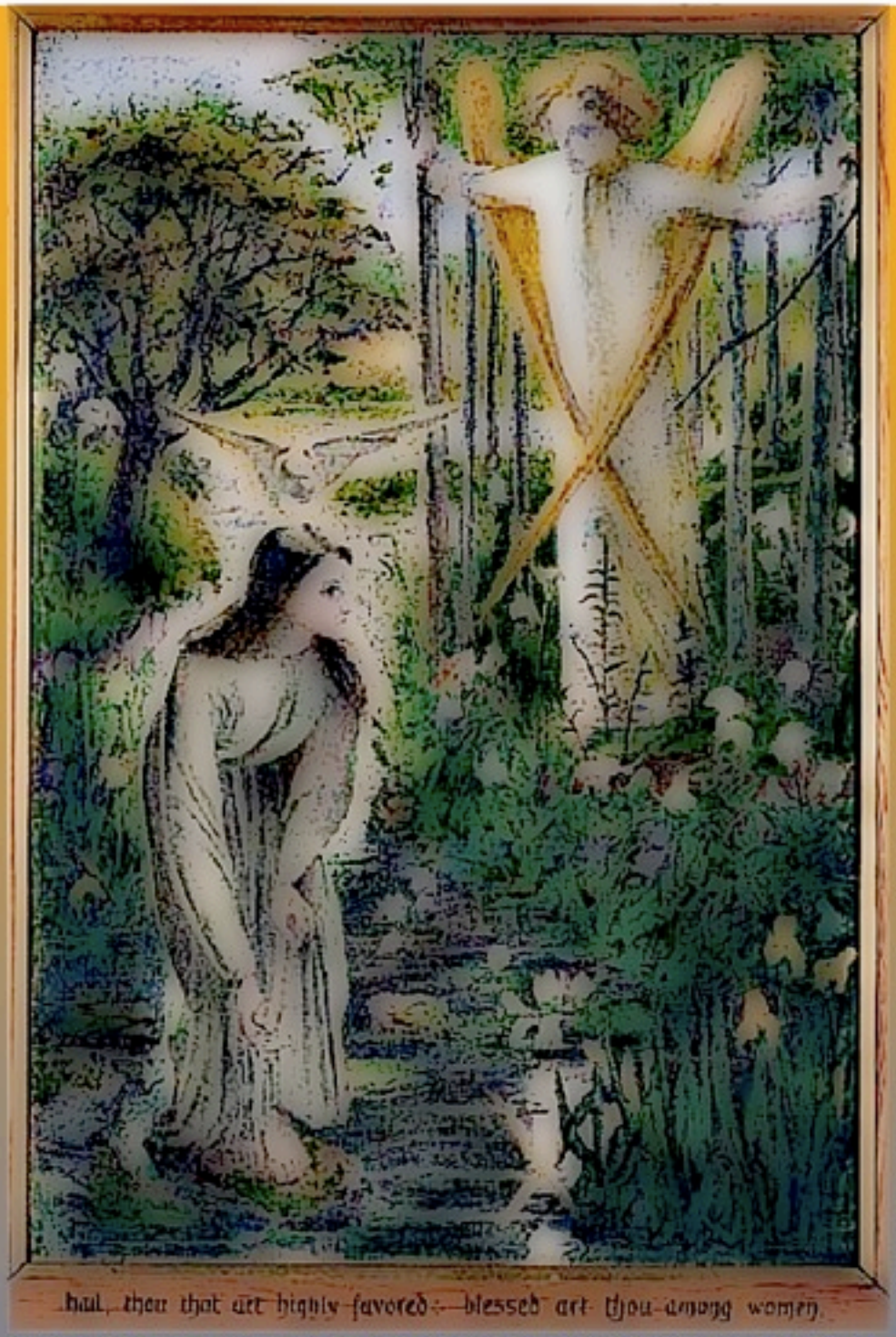
(www.northernway.org)

The following work is intended to be an aid to Rosary meditation, providing an image along with a page of succinct information for deeper contemplation of each mystery. Given that several of the mysteries of the Incarnation Cycle are not accounted for in the conventional 20 Rosary Mysteries, I have introduced the 5 Prophetic Mysteries. (see the author's work, Alchemical Mysteries of The Incarnation Cycle). Concerning the following illustrations, I have used photo processing filters on all the images of Rosary Mysteries which follow and identified each image's creator whenever possible. I have appropriated and sometimes altered traditional associations with each of the first 15 Mysteries and introduced my own associations for the newer Luminous and Prophetic Mysteries. I have included wisdom sayings from a wide array of diverse sources which I considered relevant to each particular Mystery.

The Joyful Mysteries

Relate to Our Finding the Christ within

(traditional, finalized by 1700)



THE JOYFUL MYSTERY OF ANNUNCIATION

The First Joyful Mystery: The Annunciation

The Angel Gabriel announces to the Blessed Virgin Mary that she will conceive the Christ-Child through the power of the Holy Spirit

Reading Luke 1:26-38

Root of the Mystery: Humility

Divine Name: Jesus the Incarnation

Contemplate the spirit of perfect humility exemplified by the Virgin Mary and the fruits of true humility.

humble *adjective*
Etymology: Middle English, from Anglo-French, from Latin *humilis* low, humble, from *humus* earth; akin to Greek *chthōn* earth, *chamai* on the ground
1: not proud or haughty **:** not arrogant or assertive
2: reflecting, expressing, or offered in a spirit of deference or submission
3 a: ranking low in a hierarchy or scale **:** insignificant, unpretentious **b:** not costly or luxurious (Merriam-Webster Online)

"We come nearest to the great when we are great in humility."
-- Rabindrarath Tagore

ILLUSTRATION: "The Annunciation" by Rossetti, 1855

The Joyful Mystery of

Visitation

The Second Joyful Mystery: The Visitation

Mary visits her pregnant cousin Elizabeth and stays with her for three months, helping her prepare for the birth of John the Baptist.

Reading: Luke 1:39-45

Root of the Mystery: Charity

Holy Name: Jesus, gift of charity

Contemplate Mary immeasurable charity and the fruits of having such a spirit of ever-expanding charity.

charity *noun*

Etymology: French “charit['e]” from Latin “caritas” dearness, high regard, love, from “carus” dear, costly, loved; akin to Sanskrit “kam” to wish, love, compare to Irish “cara” a friend and Welsh “caru” to love. Compare to “caress”. (Webster’s Online Dictionary)

synonyms **mercy**, **charity**, **clemency**, **grace**, **leniency** mean a disposition to show kindness or compassion. **mercy** implies compassion that forbears punishing even when justice demands it. **charity** stresses benevolence and goodwill shown in broad understanding and tolerance of others. **clemency** implies a mild or merciful disposition in one having the power or duty of punishing. **grace** implies a benign attitude and a willingness to grant favors or make concessions. **leniency** implies lack of severity in punishing. (Merriam-Webster Online)

“Charity begins at home, but should not end there” -- Proverb

ILLUSTRATION: unknown to me, downloaded from www.fisheaters.com

The Joyful Mystery of Nativity

The Third Joyful Mystery: The Nativity

Jesus, Our Lord and Redeemer, is born in a stable among the beasts of burden and visited by shepherds.

Reading: Luke 2:1-7

Root of the Mystery: Poverty

Divine Name; Jesus born in poverty

Contemplate the poverty lovingly accepted by Mary as she places the Infant Jesus in a stable manger and the fruits of embracing voluntary poverty.

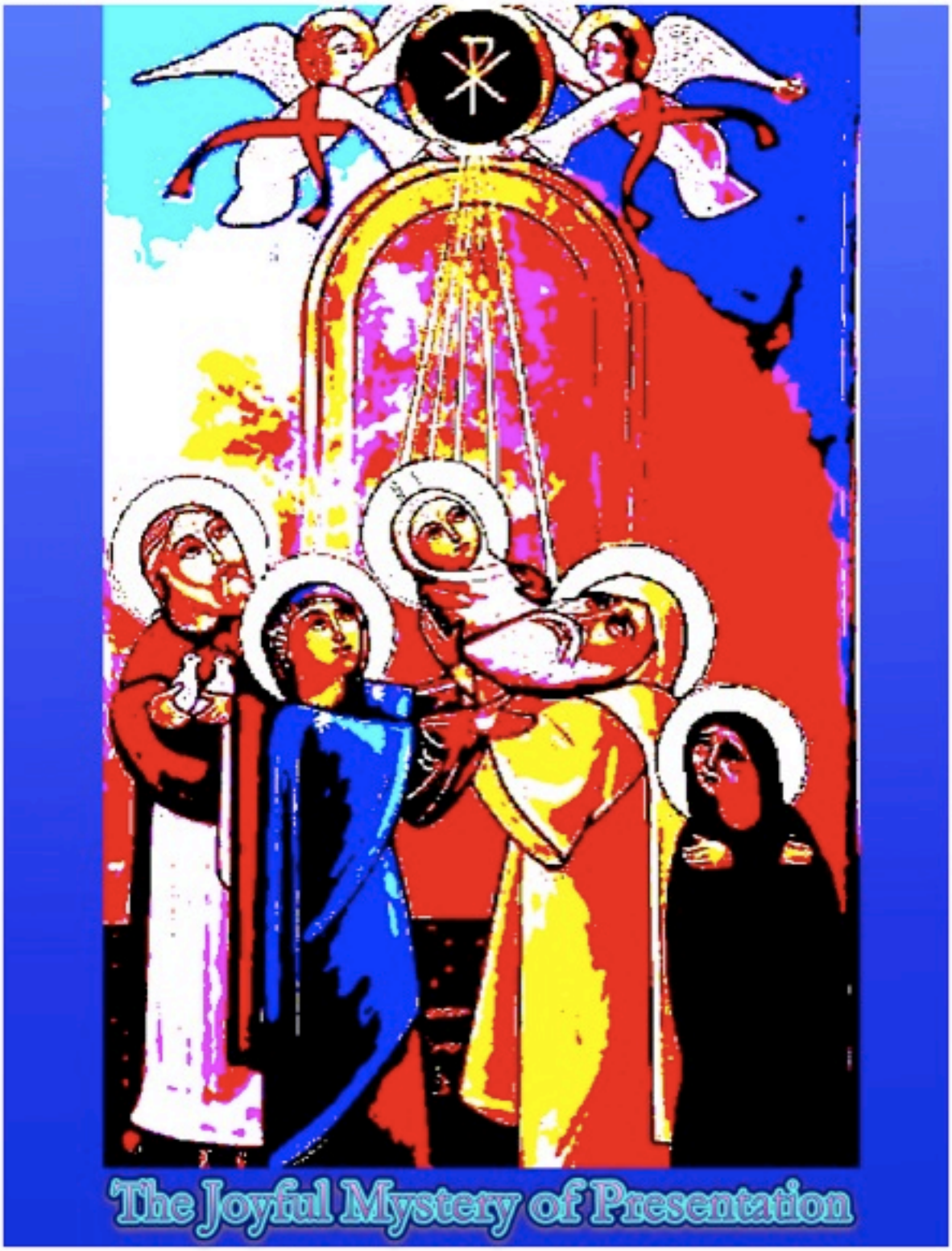
Etymology: The words "poverty" and "poor" came from Latin *pauper* = "poor", which originally came from *pau-* and the root of *pario*, i.e. "giving birth to not much" and referred to unproductive farmland or livestock. (Wikipedia)

”The individual ego is the stable in which the Christ-child is born.”
-- Carl Jung

'Tis the gift to be simple,
'tis the gift to be free,
'tis the gift to come down where you ought to be,
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
It will be in the valley of love and delight.

—Shaker song

ILLUSTRATION: “Nativity” by He Qi, 2001


The Joyful Mystery of Presentation

The Fourth Joyful Mystery: The Presentation

Mary takes the Infant Jesus to the Temple for his circumcision rite and for her purification rite.

Reading: Luke 2:21-39

Root of the Mystery: Obedience

Holy Name: Jesus the obedient sacrifice

Contemplate Mary's spirit of obedience in performing the rituals of her faith and the fruits of holy obedience to Godd.

Obedience (Lat. obêdire, "to hearken to", hence "to obey") is the complying with a command or precept. It is here regarded not as a transitory and isolated act but rather as a virtue or principle of righteous conduct. Stress is put upon the fact that one not only does what is actually enjoined, but does it with a mind to formally fall in with the will of the commander. As to whom we are to obey, there can be no doubt that first we are bound to offer an unreserved service to Almighty God in all His commands. Hence, notably, we cannot heed the behests of any human power no matter how venerable or undisputed as against the ordinances of God. All authority to which we bow has its source in Him and cannot be validly used against Him. (Catholic Encyclopedia Online)

"Obedience alone gives the right to command" -- Ralph Waldo Emerson

ILLUSTRATION: unknown to me, from www.zooomer.com

(Note: Luke's account here has many historical errors as he combines several events into one. He is only assuming that Mary offered doves for sacrifice. Lev. 5:7-11 permits the poor to offer grain sacrifices as a substitute for blood ones. Since Mary is a pillar of mercy and a model of poverty, and since Jesus came to abolish blood sacrifice, it is theologically best to assume that Mary offered a grain sacrifice instead of a murdering animals.)

The Joyful Mystery of Finding Jesus

The Fifth Joyful Mystery: Finding Jesus in the Temple

Joseph and Mary discover their child Jesus is missing and three days later finally find him, teaching the elders in the Temple in Jerusalem.

Luke 2:40-51

Root of the Mystery: Piety

Holy Name: Jesus, Saint among saints

Contemplate the joy and wonder of Joseph and Mary in finding their lost child at the Temple engaged in pious devotion to the works of Godd, and the fruits of devotion and piety.

piety *noun*

synonyms **fidelity**, **allegiance**, **fealty**, **loyalty**, **devotion**, **piety** mean faithfulness to something to which one is bound by pledge or duty. **fidelity** implies strict and continuing faithfulness to an obligation, trust, or duty. **allegiance** suggests an adherence like that of citizens to their country. **fealty** implies a fidelity acknowledged by the individual and as compelling as a sworn vow. **loyalty** implies a faithfulness that is steadfast in the face of any temptation to renounce, desert, or betray. **devotion** stresses zeal and service amounting to self-dedication. **piety** stresses fidelity to obligations regarded as natural and fundamental.

"Piety requires us to honor truth above our friends." -- Aristotle

ILLUSTRATION: "The Finding in the Temple" by Brigid Marlin, 2005

The Sorrowful Mysteries

Relate to difficulties we experience on our spiritual path and the Crucifixion of the small self

(traditional, finalized by 1700)

THE SORROWFUL MYSTERY OF THE GARDEN AGONY

The First Sorrowful Mystery: The Garden Agony

Jesus sweats blood and prays over his fate in Gethsemane Garden while his arrest looms and his disciples sleep.

Reading: Luke 22:39-46; Matthew 26:36; Mark 14:32 -42

Root of the Mystery: Contrition.

Holy Name: Jesus in His Agony.

Contemplate Our Lord Jesus, undergoing the dark night of soul while his disciples slept; contemplate one's personal contrition for being, at various times and in various ways, unconscious to Our Lord.

Contrition (noun) Origin: Middle English via Old French from the late Latin contritio(n-), from contrit- 'ground down, wear away' from the verb conterere (con- together & rerere- rub):
the state of being remorseful or penitent (MacBook Dictionary)

Perfect contrition in Catholic theology is a sorrow for sins which is motivated from the love of God. It contrasts with imperfect contrition, or attrition, a sorrow arising from a less pure motive, such as fear of Hell. According to Catholic teaching, perfect contrition removes the guilt and eternal punishment due to mortal sin, even before the sinner has received absolution in the sacrament of penance. (Wikipedia)

"There is a sacredness in tears. They are not the mark of weakness, but of power. They speak more eloquently than ten thousand tongues. They are the messengers of overwhelming grief, of deep contrition, and of unspeakable love."
-- Washington Irving

ILLUSTRATION: "Agony in the Garden" **Peter Howson 2005**

THE SORROWFUL MYSTERY OF THE PILLAR SCOURGING

The Second Sorrowful Mystery: The Pillar Scourging

Jesus is bound to a pillar and whipped 39 times by Roman soldiers.

Reading: Mark 15: 6-15

Root of the Mystery: Purity (through mortification)

Holy Name: Jesus scourged.

Contemplate Our Lord being bound and scourged and the spiritual fruits of physical mortification.

pure *(adjective)* Etymology: Middle English *pur,* from Anglo-French, from Latin *purus;* akin to Old High German *fowen* to sift, Sanskrit *punāti* he cleanses, Middle Irish *úr* fresh, new. **1 a** (1)**:** unmixed with any other matter (2)**:** free from dust, dirt, or taint (3)**:** **spotless**, **stainless** **b:** free from harshness or roughness and being in tune —used of a musical tone **c:** *of a vowel* **:** characterized by no appreciable alteration of articulation during utterance**. 2 a:** being thus and no other **:** **sheer**, **unmitigated** **b** (1)**:** **abstract**, **theoretical** (2)**:** **a priori** **c:** not directed toward exposition of reality or solution of practical problems **d:** being nonobjective and to be appraised on formal and technical qualities only. **3 a** (1)**:** free from what vitiates, weakens, or pollutes (2)**:** containing nothing that does not properly belong **b:** free from moral fault or guilt **c:** marked by chastity **:** **continent** **d** (1)**:** of pure blood and unmixed ancestry (2)**:** homozygous in and breeding true for one or more characters **e:** ritually clean **4:** having exactly the talents or skills needed for a particular role. (Merriam-Webster Online)

"For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body you will live" (Epistle to the Romans 8:13). "Put to death what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry" (Colossians 3:5). "And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires" (Galatians 5:24).

"Purity of heart is to will one thing."-- Soren Kierkegaard

ILLUSTRATION: "The Scourging of Christ" by Antonio M. Ruiz

The Sorrowful Mystery of the Thorn Crowning

The Third Sorrowful Mystery: The Thorn Crowning

Our Lord is crowned with thorns and mockingly hailed King of the Jews

Reading: John 19: 1-8; Matt. 27:27-31; Mark 15;16-20

Root of the Mystery: Courage

Holy Name: Jesus crowned with thorns

Contemplate Our Lord courageously facing his tormentors with gentle, patient love and the fruits of such courage.

courage (noun) Middle Engligh denoting the heart as the seat of feelings: from Old French corage, from Larin cor “heart”:
the ability to do something that frightens one; strength in the face of pain or grief (MacBook dictionary)

"And who is the person who, subject to death, is not afraid or in terror of death?...There is the case of the person who has abandoned passion, desire, fondness, thirst, fever, and craving for sensuality...Furthermore, there is the case of the person who has abandoned passion, desire, fondness, thirst, fever, and craving for the body...Furthermore, there is the case of the person who has done what is good, has done what is skillful, has given protection to those in fear, and has not done what is evil, savage, or cruel...Furthermore, there is the case of the person who has no doubt or perplexity, who has arrived at certainty with regard to the True Dhamma[Path of Liberation]...These, brahman, are four people who, subject to death, are not afraid or in terror of death."--**Abhaya Sutta**

The Tao Te Ching states that courage is derived from love ("慈 loving 故 causes 能 ability 勇 brave")

“Without courage, wisdom bears no fruit.”--BALTASAR GRACIAN

ILLUSTRATION: unknown title/date by Joseph Meyers

THE SORROWFUL MYSTERY OF THE WAY OF THE CROSS

The Fourth Sorrowful Mystery: The Cross Carrying

Jesus bears his cross on the Way to Golgatha, his hill of execution.

Reading: John 19: 16-22

Root of the Mystery: Patience

Holy Name: Jesus carrying His cross.

Contemplate Jesus, the Incarnation of Godd, carrying his cross to his place of execution; contemplate one's solidarity with Him.

patient *adjective*
Etymology: Middle English *pacient,* from Anglo-French, from Latin *patient-, patiens,* from present participle of *pati* to suffer; perhaps akin to Greek *pēma* suffering

1: bearing pains or trials calmly or without complaint
2: manifesting forbearance under provocation or strain
3: not hasty or impetuous
4: steadfast despite opposition, difficulty, or adversity
5 a: able or willing to bear —used with *of* **b:** **susceptible**, **admitting**

According to the Buddha, patience is the best devotion and the supreme eradicator of defilements. One with patience is neither elated when praised nor upset when criticized.

"Patience will carry one to Nibbana (Highest Enlightenment)."--Buddhist Proverb

ILLUSTRATION: "Christ Carrying the Cross" Hieronymus Bosch (1515-1516)

The Sorrowful Mystery of Crucifixion

The Fifth Sorrowful Mystery: Crucifixion

Our Lord is crucified and dies.

Reading: John 19: 25-30

Root of the Mystery: self-denial

Holy Name: Jesus crucified.

Contemplate the death of Godd, the ripping asunder of the Temple veil, and the fruits of selflessness.

self-denial (Noun)

> **1**. The trait of practicing self discipline.
> **2**. The act of denying yourself; controlling your impulses.
> **3**. Renunciation of your own interests in favor of the interests of others.
>
> Source: WordNet 1.7.1

All processes are impermanent … All processes are afflicted … All phenomena are not 'Self'; when this is seen with knowledge, one is freed from the illusion of affliction. – Dhammapada. 20. 277 – 279

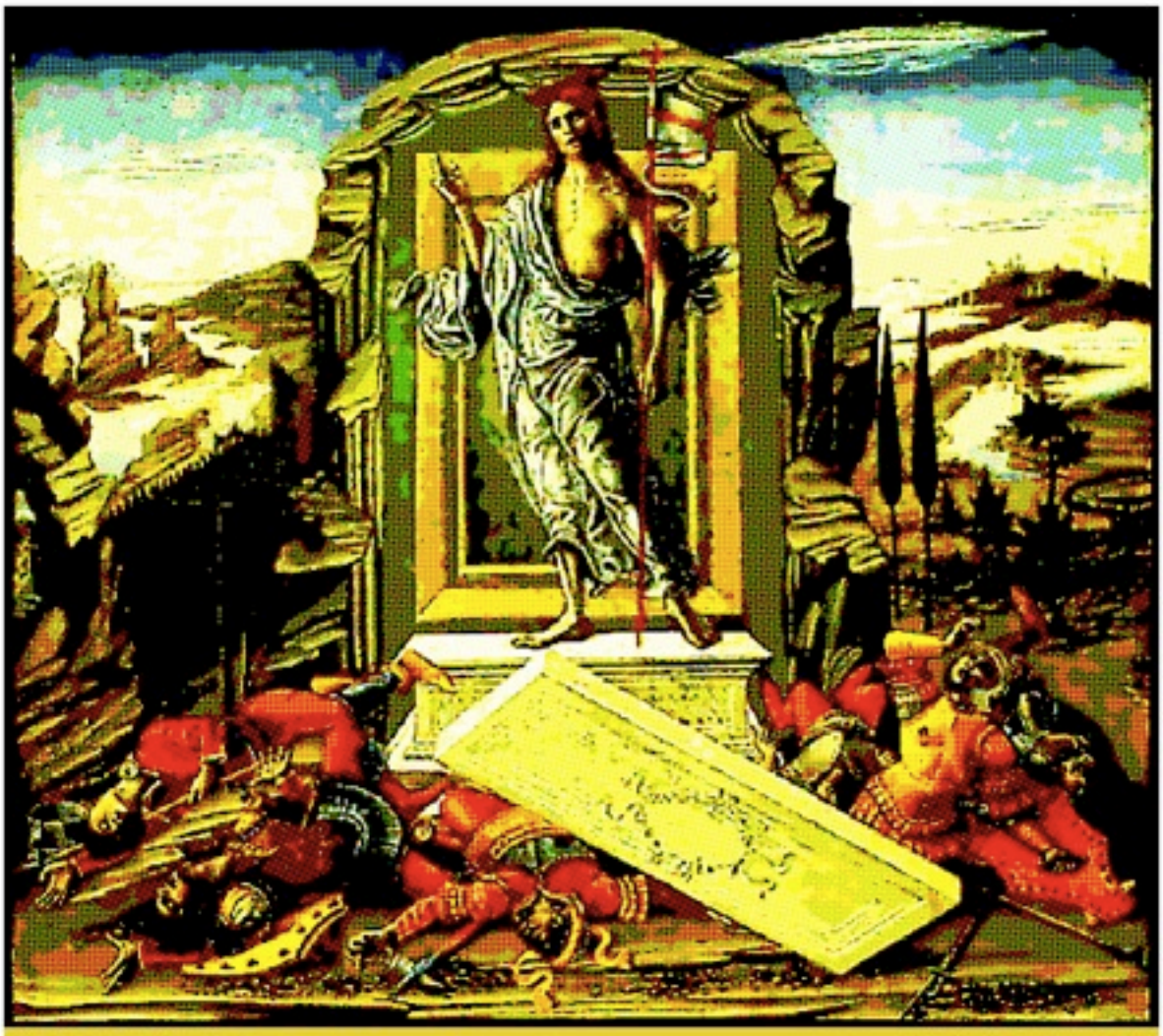
"For those who wish to climb the mountain of spiritual awareness, the path is selfless work. For those who have attained the summit of union with the Lord, the path is stillness and peace."-- Bhagavad Gita

ILLUSTRATION: **The Crucifixion by Andrea Mantegna**

The Glorious Mysteries

Relate to Our Finding Union with God

(traditional, finalized by 1700)



The Glorious Mystery of RESURRECTION

The First Glorious Mystery: The Resurrection

On the third day after his death Jesus rises from the grave and appears to his friends and family for forty days.

Reading: Mark 16: 1-7; John 20:1

Root of the Mystery: Faith

Holy Name: Jesus risen from the dead

Contemplate the meaning and fruits of Resurrection.

Faith is in general the persuasion of the mind that a certain statement is true (Phil. 1:27; 2 Thess. 2:13). Its primary idea is trust. A thing is true, and therefore worthy of trust. **Faith** is the result of teaching (Rom. 10:14-17). Knowledge is an essential element in all **faith**, and is sometimes spoken of as an equivalent to **faith** (John 10:38; 1 John 2:3). Yet the two are distinguished in this respect, that **faith** includes in it assent, which is an act of the will in addition to the act of the understanding. Easton's 1897 Bible Dictionary

Faith in Buddhism derives from the pali word *saddhā*,... often described as: a conviction that something is [true/real/trustworthy]; a determination to accomplish one's goals; a sense of joy deriving from the other two. (Wikipedia)

Faith is the basis of the Path, the mother of virtues,
Nourishing and growing all good ways,
Cutting away the net of doubt, freeing from the torrent of passion,
Revealing the unsurpassed road of ultimate peace.
When faith is undefiled, the mind is pure;
Obliterating pride, it is the root of reverence,
And the foremost wealth in the treasury of religion... (Avatamsaka Sutra)

ILLUSTRATION: The Resurrection, Benvenuto di Giovanni, c. 1491

the GLORIOUS MYSTERY OF ASCENSION

The Second Glorious Mystery: The Ascension

Our Risen Lord, in the presence of Mary and his disciples, ascends into the eternal glory of Heaven.

Reading: Luke 24: 36, 45-53.

Root of the Mystery: Hope

Holy Name: Jesus, ascended into heaven.

Contemplate the ascension of Jesus Christ into the eternal glory of heaven, his Divine Union with the Godd-head, and the fruits of hope in Christ.

hope *noun*
1 *archaic* **:** **trust**, **reliance**
2 a: desire accompanied by expectation of or belief in fulfillment;
also **:** expectation of fulfillment or success **b:** someone or something on which hopes are centered **c:** something hoped for

"Hope is the dream of a soul awake."-- French Proverb

"Hope is that thing with feathers that perches in the soul and sings the tune without the words and never stops... at all." -- Emily Dickinson

ILLUSTRATION: Ascension, Salvador Dali 1958

The Glorious Mystery of Pentecost

The Third Glorious Mystery: Pentecost

In fulfillment of Christ's promise, the Holy Spirit descends upon the Apostles and Our Blessed Mother, empowering the Jesus movement.

Reading: Acts 2: 1-7, 11

Root of the Mystery: Love

Holy Name: Jesus who fills us with the Holy Spirit

Contemplate the transformative, empowering fire of the Holy Spirit and the fruits of Divine Love.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.(1 Cor. 13:4-8)

I know of only one duty, and that is to love. - Albert Camus

One word frees us from all the weight and pain of the world; that word is Love. - Sophocles

[L]ove is not something you produce; love is not something you have; love is something that has you... Obedience keeps the rules. Love knows when to break them. -- Anthony de Mello

If we make our goal to live a life of compassion and unconditional love, then the world will indeed become a garden where all kinds of flowers can bloom and grow. - Elisabeth Kubler-Ross

At the touch of love everyone becomes a poet. -- *Plato*

ILLUSTRATION: unknown to me www.maronite-heritage.com

The Glorious Mystery of Assumption

The Fourth Glorious Mystery: The Assumption

Our Blessed Mother is assumed into Heaven, body and soul, and is united with her Divine Son.

Reading: Luke 1: 46-55

Root of the Mystery: Bliss

Holy Name: Jesus who raises us up

Contemplate the bliss of having one's whole being rooted in heaven and the fruits of Divine bliss.

bliss *noun*
1 : complete happiness
2 : paradise, **heaven**

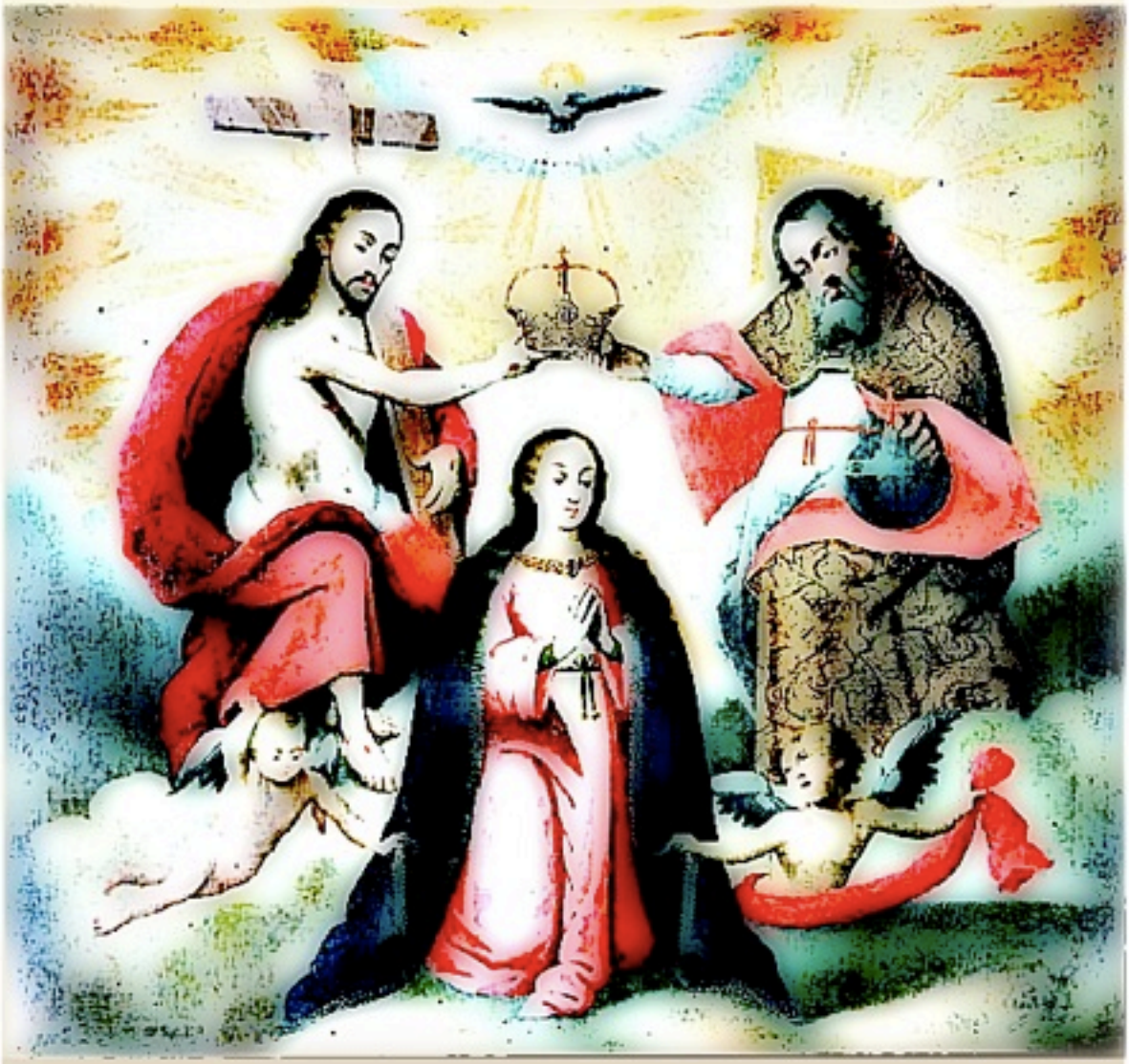
ananda noun
in Hinduism, a state of bliss that is considered the highest state of being (encarta.msn.com)
Ananda refers to my Being, which is ever pure, ever complete, never changes, and, as opposed to the mind, is never is lacking in any way. (www.advaita.org.uk)

"Follow your **bliss** and the universe will open doors for you where there were only walls."-- Joseph Campbell

"If you want to reach a state of **bliss**, then go beyond your ego and the internal dialogue. Make a decision to relinquish the need to control, the need to be approved, and the need to judge. Those are the three things the ego is doing all the time. It's very important to be aware of them every time they come up."-- Deepak Chopra

ILLUSTRATION: The Assumption **Dan Paulos date?**

The Glorious Mystery of



The Coronation

The Fifth Glorious Mystery: The Coronation

Our Blessed Mother is crowned as Queen of Heaven.

Reading: Revelations 12: 1, and Judith 13: 18-20

Root of the Mystery: Devotion to Mary

Holy Name: Jesus who crowns us in glory

Contemplate the fruits of Mary being crowned Queen of Heaven and the transformation of the Godd-image.

[T]rue devotion consists neither in sterile or transitory affection, nor in a certain vain credulity, but proceeds from true faith, by which we are led to recognize the excellence of the Mother of God, and we are moved to a filial love toward our mother and to the imitation of her virtues -- 67 Lumen Gentium, 1964

It was through the Blessed Virgin Mary that Jesus came into the world, and it is also through her that he must reign in the world.-- St. Louis de Montfort

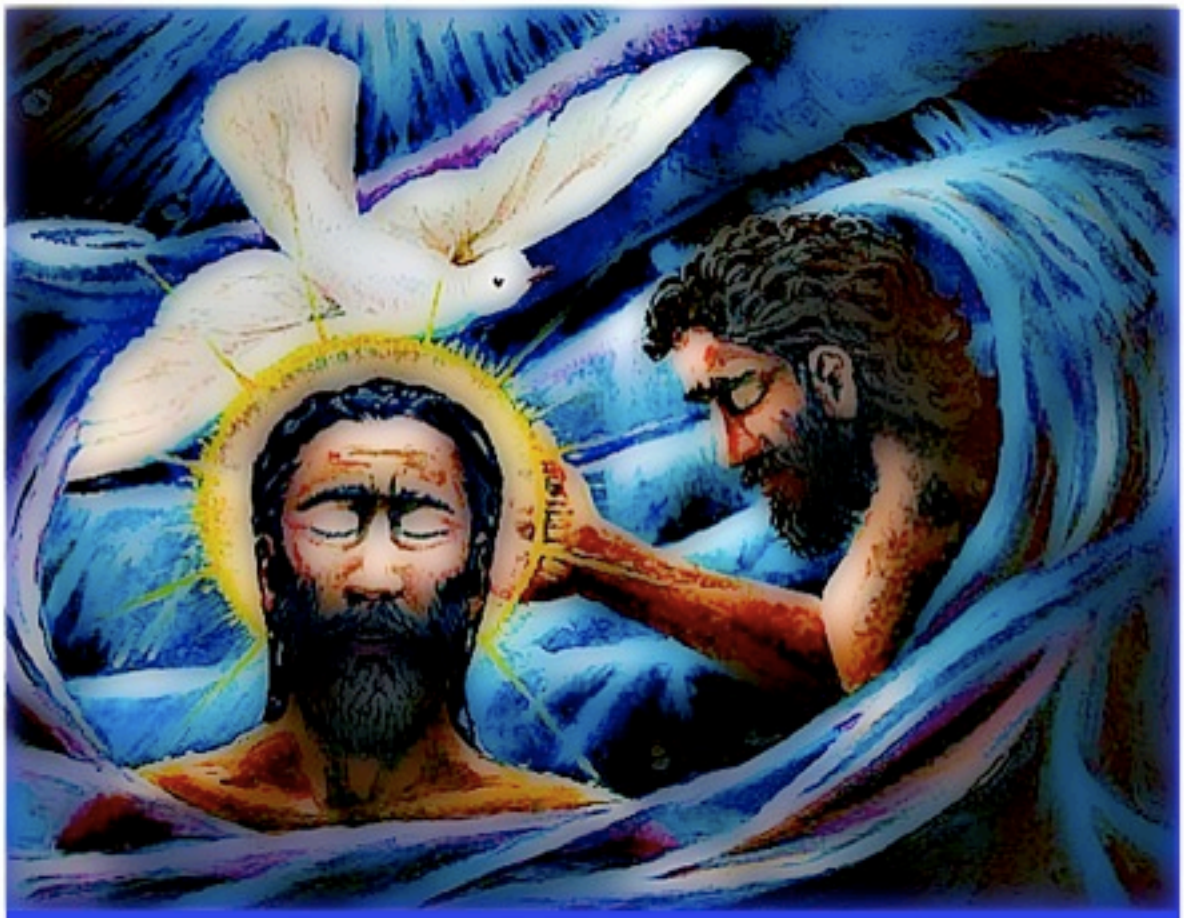
Whoever does not wish to have Mary Immaculate as his Mother will not have Christ as his Brother… – St Maximillian Kolbe

ILLUSTRATION: **Attributed to Mateo Pisarro, Coronation of the Virgin by the Holy Trinity, ca. 1690**

The Luminous Mysteries

Relate to the Spiritual Awareness We develop on our Spiritual Path

(introduced by Pope John Paul II in 2002)



THE LUMINOUS MYSTERY OF THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST

The First Luminous Mystery: The Jordan Baptism

Our Lord is baptized by his cousin John in the Jordan river and then prays in the wilderness for 40 days.

Reading: Matthew 3: 13-17

Rootto of the Mystery: Vocation

Holy Name: Jesus who gives us new life

Contemplate Christ's vocation and yours.

vocation *noun*
Etymology: Middle English *vocacioun,* from Anglo-French *vocaciun,* from Latin *vocation-, vocatio* summons, from *vocare* to call, from *vox* voice

1 a: a summons or strong inclination to a particular state or course of action; *especially* **:** a divine call to the religious life **b:** an entry into the priesthood or a religious order

2 a: the work in which a person is regularly employed **:** **occupation** **b:** the persons engaged in a particular occupation

3: the special function of an individual or group (Merriam-Webster Online)

Synonyms: Vocation, calling, profession, cloth, faculty; industry, art; industrial arts; craft, mystery, handicraft; trade; (commerce). Roget's Thesaurus).

"Many people mistake our work for our **vocation**. Our **vocation** is the love of Jesus."-- Mother Teresa of Calcutta

"Everyone has his own specific **vocation** or mission in life; everyone must carry out a concrete assignment that demands fulfillment. Therein he cannot be replaced, nor can his life be repeated, thus, everyone's task is unique as his specific opportunity."-- Viktor Frankl

ILLUSTRATION: unknown to me, from www.stjames-southam.co.uk

The Luminous Mystery of the Wedding at Caana

The Second Luminous Mystery: The Wedding at Canaa

At the request of Mother Mary, Jesus turns water to wine.

Reading: John 2: 1-11.

Root of the Mystery: Alchemy

Holy Name: Jesus who answers our prayers

Contemplate "Through Mary to Jesus".

Alchemy (noun) 1 : a medieval chemical science and speculative philosophy aiming to achieve the transmutation of the base metals into gold, the discovery of a universal cure for disease, and the discovery of a means of indefinitely prolonging life
2 : a power or process of transforming something common into something special
3 : an inexplicable or mysterious transmuting (Merriam-Webster Online)

Alchemy: the ancient attempt to create the *Philosopher's Stone* and mutable gold...In most texts, the basic idea was to divide up the four elements mixed up in the prime matter, refine and circulate them, and rejoin them in a *heirosgamos* [holy wedding]... of opposites. Jung saw... the work of alchemy, as an unconscious *projection* of the process of *individuation*, which starts with an unconscious content (*prima materia*) and end with the realization of the *Self* symbol (*Philosopher's Stone*). The alchemical process, which began in the spring and ended in the fall, was an extended act of active imagination (meditatio) fired by awareness and libido. Alchemy also bridged *Gnosticism* and psychology. Jung saw in it a historical counterpart to his psychology of the collective *unconscious*. *(www.terrapsych.com)*

"Only by discovering alchemy have I clearly understood that the Unconscious is a process and that the ego's rapports with the Unconscious and its contents initiate an evolution, more precisely a real metamorphoses of the psyche" --Carl Jung (Memories, Dreams and Reflections)

"You are an alchemist; make gold of that".-- William Shakespeare *The Life of Timon of Athens* (Timon at V, i)

ILLUSTRATION: unknown to me, from http://www.wegm.com

THE LUMINOUS MYSTERY OF GODD'S REIGN PROCLAIMED!

The Third Luminous Mystery: Godd's Reign Proclaimed

Jesus proclaims the Gospel in word and deed.

Reading: Mark 1: 14-15

Root of the Mystery: Freedom

Holy Name: Jesus who leads us to heaven.

Contemplate the radical implications of the Gospel of Christ.

True salvation is freedom from negativity, and above all from past and future as a psychological need.-- Eckhart Tolle

Freedom is like taking a bath -- you have to keep doing it every day!
--FLORYNCE KENNEDY

If you want to be free, there is but one way; it is to guarantee an equally full measure of liberty to all your neighbors. There is no other.
Carl Schurz

Preach the Gospel at all times and when necessary use words.
-- St. Francis of Assisi

ILLUSTRATION: unknown to me

The Luminous Mystery of TRANSFIGURATION

The Fourth Luminous Mystery: The Transfiguration

Our Lord's Divine Majesty is revealed to James, Peter and John. when they see the luminosity Jesus in the presence of Elijah and Moses.

Reading: Matthew 17: 1-8

Root of the Mystery: Creativity

Holy Name: Jesus who reveals His Divine Majesty

Contemplate Jesus Christ as the creative Word of Godd, source of Divine Law and Holy Prophecy, and the fruits of realizing this creative power source.

Colloquial definitions of creativity are typically descriptive of activity that results:

- in producing or bringing about something partly or wholly new;
- in investing an existing object with new properties or characteristics;
- in imagining new possibilities that were not conceived of before;
- and in seeing or performing something in a manner different from what was thought possible or normal previously. (Wikipedia)

The key question isn't "What fosters creativity?" But it is why in God's name isn't everyone creative? Where was the human potential lost? How was it crippled?
-- Abraham Maslow

An invasion of armies can be resisted, but not an idea whose time has come.
--Victor Hugo

It is better to create than to be learned, creating is the true essence of life.
-- Barthold Georg Niebuhr

ILLUSTRATION: Transfiguration of Jesus, artist/date ?, from www.gnosticteachings.org

The Luminous Mystery of

EUCHARIST

The Fifth Luminous Mystery: The Last Supper

On the last night of his mortal life, Jesus institutes the sacrament of the Eucharist.

Reading: Matthew 26: 26-28

Root of the Mystery: Community

Holy Name: Jesus who nourishes us with His Body and Blood

Contemplate the significance of Christ's choosing, blessing, breaking and giving the Bread. Contemplate Christ's sharing of the Cup. Contemplate the fruits of community.

"He is The Bread sown in the virgin, leavened in the Flesh, molded in His Passion, baked in the furnace of the Sepulchre, placed in the Churches, and set upon the Altars, which daily supplies Heavenly Food to the faithful."-- St. Peter Chrysologus

[W]e have the chalice of Your Precious Blood, filled with life and light. The purer we are, the more we receive."-- St. Ephraem

"The culmination of the Mass is not the consecration, but Communion."
"You come to me and unite Yourself intimately to me under the form of nourishment. Your Blood now runs in mine, Your Soul, Incarnate God, compenetrates mine".-- St. Maximilian Kolbe

"Nobody was born nonviolent, No one was born charitable. None of us comes to these things by nature but only by conversion. The first duty of the nonviolent community is helping its members work upon themselves and come to conversion." -- anon.

ILLUSTRATION: unknown to me

The Prophetic Mysteries

Relate to the Prophetic Journey of Contemplative Life

(introduced by DEWnada YTHU 2008)

The Prophetic Mystery of The Flight to Egypt

The First Prophetic Mystery: The Flight to Egypt

The Holy Family flees to Egypt to escape King Herod's slaughter of the innocents.

Reading: Matthew 2:13-18

Root of the Mystery: Equanimity

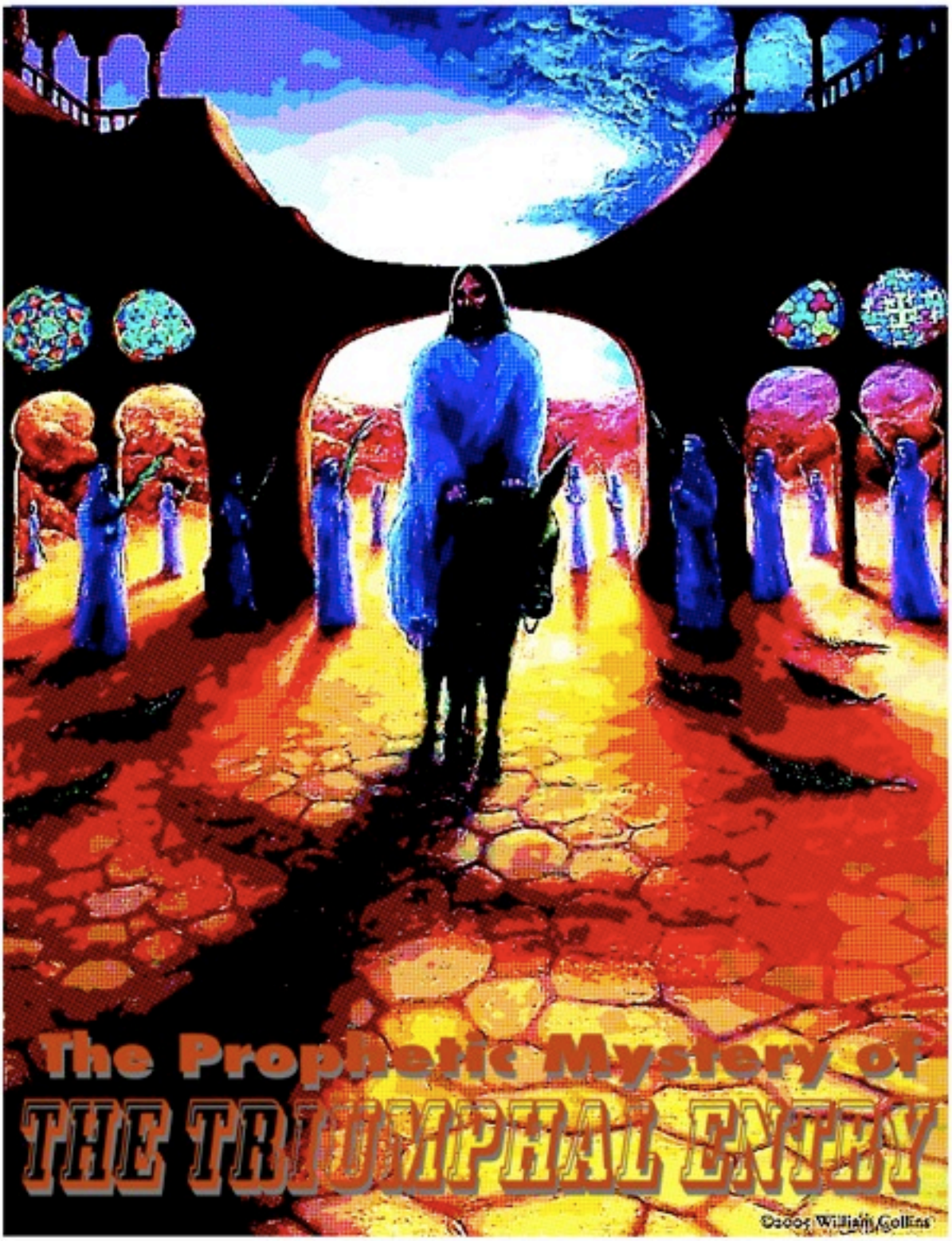
Holy Name: Jesus the hunted

Contemplate Divine Providence guiding the Holy Family to safety and peace and the fruits of a being grounded in peace.

equanimity ***noun***
Etymology: Latin *aequanimitas,* from *aequo animo* with even mind
1 : evenness of mind especially under stress
2 : right disposition **: balance** (Merriam-Webster Online)

[E]quanimity appears as a precursor to and expression of enlightenment, as a wonderful and necessary quality of mind and heart. The spacious mind-heart leaves room for all the difficulties and attractions of life, for everything wanted and unwanted. Within the warmth of this vast inner space, equanimity permits us to live freely, allowing everything to have its place without having us, without taking us. In equanimity, we live in the world of presence, neither fettered nor buffeted by the inevitable turmoil of life. To work toward equanimity, we let go of attachments. www.innerfrontier.org

ILLUSTRATION: unknown www.domestic-church.com


The Prophetic Mystery of
THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY
©2004 William Collins

The Second Prophetic Mystery: Triumphal Entry

Jesus is hailed by the crowds as Messiah as he enters Jerusalem for Passover.

Reading: Matthew 21:1-9

Root of the Mystery: Energy

Holy Name: Jesus, Son of David

Contemplate the energy of the first Palm Sunday celebration, when Jesus is welcomed into Jerusalem, and the fruits of receiving Jesus Christ as Messiah.

virya (S): Energy; vigor, the vital energy necessary to maintain and progress in spiritual development. (lion's roar tantric glossary)

Vira is a cognate of the Latin word, *vir* (adult human male) from which we derive the English words *virtue* and *virile*. The vira is filled with vital energy (virya) (Feuerstein, 1993; Evola, 1983). Not only are heroes "off the leash"; they are ready to do battle with the rules of conventional morality. Heroes are always the ones who break out of consensus thinking, brave the dangers of going against the stream, and come back with a prize. -- John Ryan Haule

Bring me my bow of burning gold:
Bring me my arrows of desire:
Bring me my spear: O clouds unfold!
Bring me my chariot of fire.
I will not cease from mental fight,
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand
Till we have built Jerusalem
In England's green and pleasant land.
--William Blake (from JERUSALEM)

"The more you lose yourself in something bigger than yourself, the more energy you will have."-- Norman Vincent Peale

ILLUSTRATION: "The Triumphal Entry" by William Collins, 2005

the prophetic mystery of the temple cleansing

The Third Prophetic Mystery: The Temple Cleansing

Jesus drives out the buyers and sellers of sacrificial animals and the money-changers from the Temple.

Reading: Mark 11:14-16; Matthew 21:12-13; John 2:14-16

Root of the Mystery: Mindfulness

Holy Name: Jesus the Great Liberator

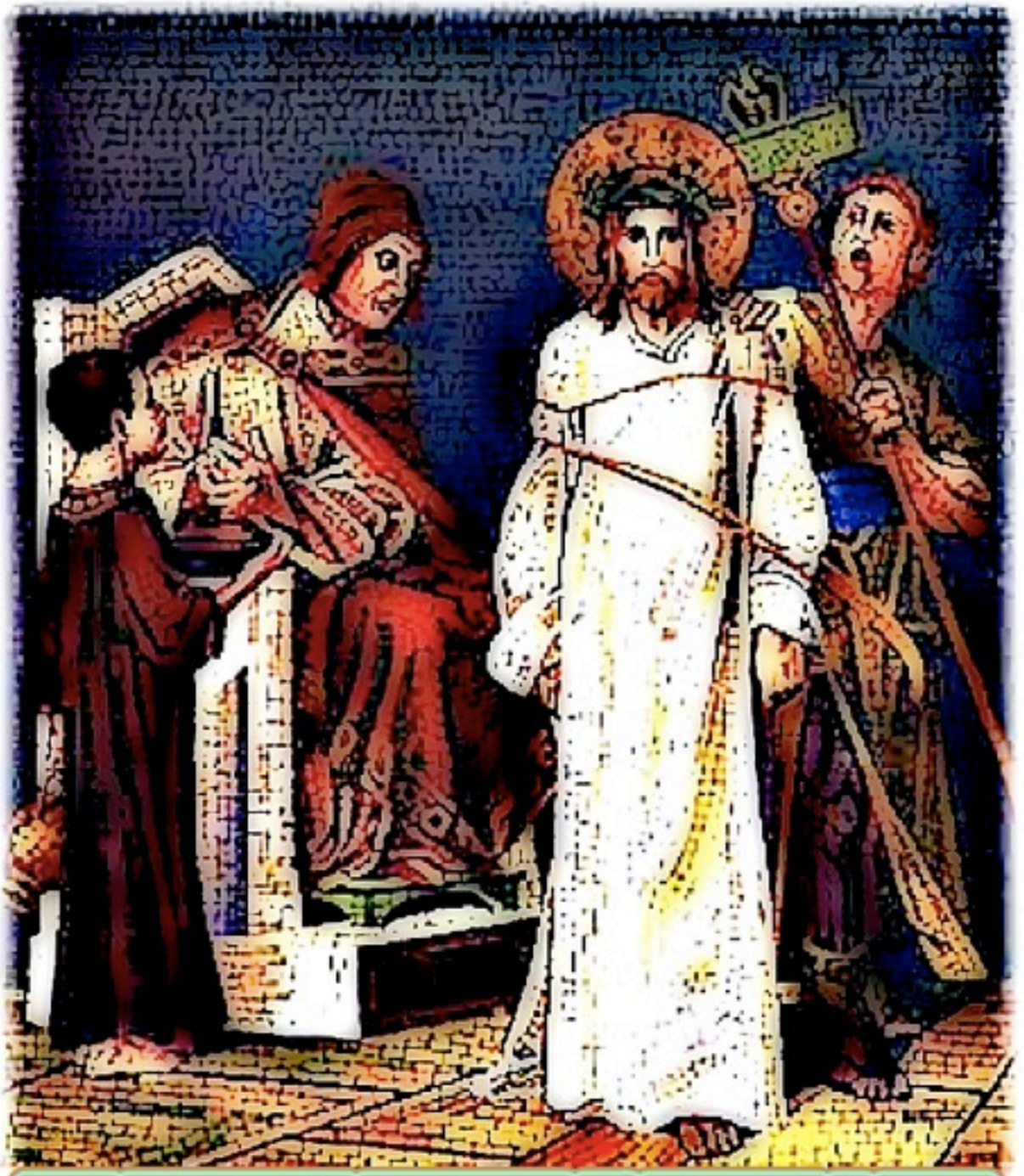
Contemplate Jesus' focus on the Temple being as House of Prayer.
Contemplate the barriers to and fruits of having a clean inner Temple.

mindfulness (noun)- the trait of staying aware of (paying close attention to) your responsibilities heedfulness attentiveness. thefreedictionary.com

Mindfulness is the energy of being aware and awake to the present moment. It is the continuous practice of seeing and relating deeply to every moment of daily life. To be mindful is to be truly alive, present and at one with those around you and with what you are doing. -edamommy

"When **mindfulness** embraces those we love, they will bloom like flowers."--
Thich Nhat Hanh

ILLUSTRATION: Cleansing the Temple Graham Kennedy 2006



The Prophetic Mystery of Arrest & Trial

The Fourth Prophetic Mystery: Arrest and Trial.

Jesus is arrested and tried for being a revolutionary.

Reading: Matthew 26:45-50

Root of the Mystery: Investigation of the Way

Holy Name: Jesus the Leveler

Contemplate the radical expressions of Jesus' faith and implications of Jesus' teachings which resulted in his arrest and trial.

investigation *Noun*
a careful search or examination in order to discover facts
thefreedictionary.com

"Nothing has such power to broaden the mind as the ability to investigate systematically and truly all that comes under thy observation in life."
-- Marcus Aurelius

"After investigation, believe that which you have yourselves tested and found reasonable, and which is for your good, and that of others."
-- Buddha

ILLUSTRATION: Trial of Jesus, by?, www.mystae.com

The Prophetic Mystery of Entombment

The Fifth Prophetic Mystery: Entombment

Jesus is laid in the tomb and descends into Sheol

Reading: Matthew 27:59-61

Root of the Mystery: Absorption

Holy Name: Jesus of the underworld

Contemplate Jesus' descent to the underworld.

Absorption *noun* **1 a:** the process of **absorbing** or of being **absorbed**
b: interception of radiant energy or sound waves
2: entire occupation of the mind

absorb *transitive verb*
Etymology: Anglo-French *asorbir* to swallow up, from Latin *absorbēre,* from *ab-* + *sorbēre* to suck up; akin to Lithuanian *surbti* to sip, Greek *rophein* to gulp down
1: to take in and make part of an existent whole
2 a: to suck up or take up **b:** to take in **: acquire**, **learn** **c: use up**, **consume**
3: to engage or engross wholly
4 a (1)**:** to receive without recoil or echo (2)**: endure**, **sustain** (3)**: assume**, **bear**
b: to transform (radiant energy) into a different form especially with a resulting rise in temperature (Merriam-Webster Online)

Right absorption is an absorption into that which is Void of all discernible characteristics, but which is the fount of all liberative insight. (*maitreyasangha.org.au)*
Right absorption is being completely involved, thoroughly and fully, in a non-dualistic way. -- Chögyam Trungpa

ILLUSTRATION: unknown to me

Rosary Divination

With my addition of the Prophetic Mysteries to the Rosary there are then 5 Cycles of 5 Mysteries. You can use dice divination to find which specific mystery is appropriate for you to meditate on at this time. Get two 10-sided dice of different colors, assign each color to first or second position, roll them and look up the corresponding # on this chart to find the corresponding mystery. Or roll one 10-sided die twice to get the number.

1, 26, 51, 76 The Annunciation

2, 27, 52, 77 The Visitation

3, 28, 53, 78 The Nativity

4, 29, 54, 79 The Presentation

5, 30, 55, 80 Finding Jesus in the Temple

6, 31, 56, 81 The Agony in the Garden

7, 32, 57, 82 The Scourging at the Pillar

8, 33, 58, 83 The Crowning with Thorns

9, 34, 59, 84 The Way of the Cross

10, 35, 60, 85 The Crucifixion

11, 36, 61, 86 The Resurrection

12, 37, 62, 87 The Ascension

13, 38, 63, 88 The Descent of the Holy Spirit

14, 39, 64, 89 The Assumption

15, 40, 65, 90 The Coronation

16, 41, 66, 91 The Baptism in the Jordan

17, 42, 67, 92 The Wedding at Canaa

18, 43, 68, 93 The Proclamation of the Reign of Godd

19, 44, 69, 94 The Transfiguration

20, 45, 70, 95 The Eucharist

21, 46, 71, 96 The Flight to Egypt

22, 47, 72, 97 The Triumphal Entry

23, 48, 73, 98 The Cleansing of the Temple

24, 49, 74, 99 The Arrest & Trial

25, 50. 75, 00 The Entombment

Now that there are 5 cycles of 5 Mysteries one can also take all the first mysteries, all the second, third, fourth and fifth and put them together to make 5 more cycles of Mysteries like this:

All the first mysteries, aka the Liberation Mysteries:

Annunciation / Egypt Flight / Baptism / Garden Agony / Resurrection

All the second mysteries, aka the Creative Mysteries:

Visitation / Canaan Wedding / Triumphal Entry / Pillar Scourging / Ascension

All the third mysteries, aka the Community Mysteries:

Nativity / Gospel Proclamation / Temple Cleansing / Thorn Crowning / Pentecost

All the fourth mysteries, aka the Alchemical Mysteries:

Presentation / Transfiguration / Arrest & Trial / Way of the Cross / Assumption

All the fifth mysteries, aka the Life Mysteries or the Mysterious Mysteries:

Finding Jesus / Eucharist / Crucifixion / Entombment / Coronation

If one includes these additional 5 Rosary cycles we now have 10 cycles. So one 10-sided die can be rolled to divine which cycle is appropriate to meditate upon at this time.

1 - Liberation Mysteries

2 - Creative Mysteries

3 - Community Mysteries

4 - Alchemical Mysteries

5 - Life Mysteries

6 - Joyful Mysteries

7 - Sorrowful Mysteries

8 - Glorious Mysteries

9 - Luminous Mysteries

0 - Prophetic Mysteries

The Rosary Chant of the Ranters' Enclave

[in parentheses are the traditional fruits associated with each mystery and in brackets are my associations.]

The First Sorrowful Mystery: Garden Agony (contrition)
The Second Sorrowful Mystery: Pillar Scourging (purity)
The Third Sorrowful Mystery: Thorn Crowning (courage)
The Fourth Sorrowful Mystery: Cross Carrying (patience)
The Fifth Sorrowful Mystery: Crucifixion (self-denial)

The First Joyful Mystery: Annunciation (humility)
The Second Joyful Mystery: Visitation (charity)
The Third Joyful Mystery: Nativity (poverty)
The Fourth Joyful Mystery: Presentation (obedience)
The Fifth Joyful Mystery: Finding Jesus in the Temple (piety)

The First Glorious Mystery: Resurrection (faith)
The Second Glorious Mystery: Ascension (hope)
The Third Glorious Mystery: Pentecost (love)
The Fourth Glorious Mystery: Assumption (bliss)
The Fifth Glorious Mystery: Coronation (devotion)

The First Luminous Mystery: Christ's Baptism (contemplation) [vocation]
The Second Luminous Mystery: Wedding in Canaa (integration) [alchemy]
The Third Luminous Mystery: Godd's Reign Proclaimed (evangelization) [freedom]
The Fourth Luminous Mystery: Transfiguration (charisms) [creativity]
The Fifth Luminous Mystery: Holy Eucharist (communion) [community]

The First Prophetic Mystery: Flight to Egypt [equanimity]
The Second Prophetic Mystery: Triumphal Entry [energy]
The Third Prophetic Mystery: Temple Cleansing [mindfulness]
The Fourth Prophetic Mystery: Arrest & Trial [investigation of the Way]
The Fifth Prophetic Mystery: Entombment [absorption]

(State the Mystery you wish to Contemplate, then...)

(***"Our Father"*** Call & Response each line)

Pater Noster
Qui es in caelis
Libera nos a malo
Amen

(***"Hail Mary"*** Call & Response 10X)

(Call) **Ave Maria, Gratia Plena, Dominus Tecum**
(Response) **Dominus Tecum**
(Call) **Santa Mari-a, Mater Dei (uh), Ora Pro Nobis**
(Response) **Ora Pro Nobis**
(Call) **Jesu Christi, Agnus Dei, Miserere Nobis**
(Response) **Miserere Nobis**

(***"Glory Be"*** Call & Response each line)

Gloria Patri
Et Filio Et
Spiritus Sancto
Et Nunc, Et Semper, Amen.

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Bliss, Joy and All Divine Fruits to You Dear Reader!

Hail, Lady of Light
Hail, Lady of Light,
Mystical Lover of my spirit.
Blessed are you, Woman of Wisdom,
and blessed are the gifts you bestow on us your children.

Holy Sophia, goddess who leads to the One God,
fill me with your emptiness,
and darken my spirit with your light,
Amen. -- (anon.)

Appendix:

Following are the 50 Rosary Mysteries introduced by Dominic of Prussia in the early 1400s: (from www.geocities.com/hashanayobel/homilies/pensieri/Rosary3.htm)

1. …Jesus, conceived of the Holy Spirit during the Annunciation of the Angel.

2. … Jesus, who together with you who has conceived him, visits Saint Elizabeth.

3. … Jesus, to whom you, virgin in body and soul, have given birth with joy.

4. … Jesus, whom you have fed from your virginal breast, adoring in him the creator.

5. … Jesus, whom you have swaddled in clothes and placed him in a crib.

6. … Jesus, who the Angels celebrated singing *Gloria in excelsis*, and the shepherds visited in Bethlehem.

7. … Jesus, who received his circumcsion on the eighth day, and was given the name of Jesus.

8. … Jesus, who the Magi adored while filling him with gifts.

9. … Jesus, who was carried by you to the Temple and presented to God, his Father.

10. … Jesus, who was received in the arms of old Simon, and recognized by the holy widow Anna.

11. … Jesus, with whom you fled into Egypt, because of Herod's persecution.

12. … Jesus, with whom you returned home seven years later, as told by the Angel.

13. … Jesus, lost in Jerusalem when he was twelve years old, and found again in the temple after three days.

14. … Jesus, who each day grew further in age and grace before God and men.

15. … Jesus, whom John had baptized in the Jordan and shown out to be the Lamb of God.

16. … Jesus, who, having fasted for forty days in the desert, has won over the temptations put to him by the Enemy.

17. … Jesus, who, after having chosen the disciples, preached the kingdom of God.

18. … Jesus, who opened the eyes of the blind, healed lepers, rose to their feet paralyzed persons and freed those possessed by the devil.

19. … Jesus, whose feet were washed with Mary Magdalene's tears, dried with her hair, anointed with her perfume.

20. … Jesus, who rose Lazarus and other persons who were dead.

21. … Jesus, triumphally acclaimed by his people on Palm Sunday.

22. … Jesus, who in the Last Supper instituted the sacrament of his Body and Blood.

23. … Jesus, who in the garden, after having prayed for long, sweat profuse blood.

24. … Jesus, who, meeting his enemies, gave up himself willingly into their hands.

25. … Jesus, captured and bound with force by those sent by the Jews, was so led to the high priest.

26. … Jesus, who, being falsely accused, was blindfolded, hit and covered with spit.

27. … Jesus, before Caiphas and Pilate, is given the burden of the cross to bear like a malefactor.

28. … Jesus, has his clothes taken off and is cruelly whipped on order given by Pilate.

29. … Jesus, crowned with thorns, is covered with a purple mantle and hailed king by mocking soldiers.

30. … Jesus, who is condemned to a wicked death and led to face torment between two thieves.

31. … Jesus, nailed to the cross and made to drink gall and vinegar.

32. … Jesus, while praying for his murderers, said: "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they are doing."

33. … Jesus, who said to the thief who was crucified on his right hand: "Truly I say to you, today you will be with me in heaven."

34. … Jesus, who said to you, his Mother: "Mother, here is your son" ; and to John: "Here is your Mother."

35. … Jesus, who cried from the cross: "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"

36. … Jesus, who said: "I thirst!", and after having tasted the vinegar he cried out: "It is all accomplished."

37. … Jesus, who at the end cried out: "Father, in your handsI put my spirit."

38. … Jesus, who for us, poor sinners, has suffered a cruel and painful death.

39. … Jesus, whose side was pierced with a spear, pours out Blood and Water for the forgiveness of our sins.

40. … Jesus, whose sacred body was brought down from the cross, was received in your arms according to a pious saying.

41. … Jesus, whose body was wrapped in a sheet and wrapped with herbs and sspices was laid in the grave by holy men.

42. … Jesus, whose grave was sealed and guards put beside it by the Jews.

43. … Jesus, whose holy soul descended to Hades, to conduct the holy patriarchs to heaven.

44. … Jesus, who rose from the dead on the third day, filling you, his holy Mother, with an ineffable joy.

45. … Jesus, who after his Resurrection often appeared spesso to his disciples and friends to strengthen their faith.

46. … Jesus, who, before you and his apostoles, ascended into heaven and is sitting on the firght hand of the Father.

47. … Jesus, who, as he had promised, sent the Holy Spirit on his apostles on Pentecost Sunday.

48. … Jesus, who has finally called you to him, oh sweet Mother of his, placing you on his right hand and crowning you with glory.

49. … Jesus, who wants to call us after this miserable life, us servants of his and yours, and receive us in his Father's Kingldom.

50. … Jesus, who reigns together with the Farther and the Holy Spirit, and with you Most Holy Mother, triumpant and glorious for ever.